

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, after the title, please insert the following:

**--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

This application claims benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/159,590, filed October 18, 1999, and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/183,322, filed February 17, 2000.

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On page 2, please replace paragraph 6, lines 29-32, with the following paragraph:

-- Furthermore, the inventors analyzed the obtained clones by the BLAST search of the databases, SwissProt, GenBank, and UniGene. --.